

Dear Parents and Friends of Clarence Schools:

As is the practice each year, the district is proud to present you with the 2018-2019 Clarence District Calendar. The calendar is a critical source of information on events that are scheduled for this school year and on policies and procedures of particular interest to families and district residents. We know that many of you refer to the calendar often and post it on a refrigerator or kitchen cabinet so you can keep track of the many events that occur in our schools.

The Clarence Board of Education is committed to doing everything possible to improve communications between the district and the community. The Clarence District Calendar is one means of facilitating that goal. You will find much more than the listing of dates and times for school-related events in the calendar. You will also find important phone numbers, PTO facts, an outline of the New York State Learning Standards, and details on important information such as emergency procedures, lunch programs, transportation, registration, and Board of Education meetings. In addition, there is a synopsis of the district safety plan, Family Rights and Privacy Act, and Code of Conduct, three required documents that provide key data on district policies. We have tried to make everything in the calendar concise and useable. It is our sincere hope that the reader will be able to access information on just about every aspect of the district by looking over the calendar. The calendar also serves as a showcase for student artwork, poetry, and prose. Dozens of talented students have their work displayed and it really makes the publication come alive.

Over the past few years the Board of Education has also adopted a series of efforts to help improve overall communication between school and home. The fastest way to find out the most recent information on school events, athletics, or emergency procedures is to visit our website. We completely redesigned our website three years ago to make it more user friendly and easy to navigate, and we regularly update it. Our teachers have designed individual web pages as well, which are all linked off of the home page for a particular school. Our Internet address is <http://www.clarenceschools.org>. E-mail has also become a preferred means of maintaining communication. Any school employee can be reached via e-mail by using the following protocol in a message address, first initial last name@clarenceschools.org (example: ghicks@clarenceschools.org).

One of the reasons Clarence has been so successful is the strong collaboration between school and home. As the District's first official publication of the school year, the calendar serves as an invitation to become an active partner in your child's education. We encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities for involvement. Please accept my best wishes for a productive, rewarding, and successful school year. If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me by telephone at 407-9102 or via the email address mentioned above.

Geoffrey M. Hicks, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools